

Purdue University
Agricultural Safety and Health Program ■

1995 Indiana Farm Fatality Summary

Compiled by the Purdue University Agricultural Safety and Health Program

Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department

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This farm fatality report is compiled through a variety of sources, including news reports, and personal interviews. Several cases were identified with the assistance of the Indiana Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program at the Indiana State Department of Health, which documents occupational fatalities identified through coroners' reports, as well as news articles and on-site investigations.

The Purdue Agricultural Safety and Health Program identified 42 farm work-related fatalities¹ that occurred in 1995. The average age of 1995 farm fatality victims was 43 (Table 1). A large proportion (42%) of the recorded fatalities resulted from incidents involving tractors (Figure 1). Table 2 summarizes the types of incidents associated with Indiana's 1995 farm fatalities.

Table 1. Demographics of 1995 Indiana Farm Fatalities.

Gender	Age Distribution					Total	%
	1-17	18-35	36-59	60+	Unk		
Males	6	5	14	11	1	37	88
Females	3	—	1	1	—	5	12
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	9	5	15	12	1	42	100
%	21	12	36	29	2	100	
Average Age	7.2	32	47	72	—	43	

¹ A **farm work-related fatality** is defined as any fatal injury to a farm or ranch worker (or bystander) occurring in the course of performing an agricultural work-related task, or as a result of exposure to hazards in the agricultural workplace. Motor vehicle incidents not clearly involving agricultural equipment are excluded.

Table 2: 1995 Indiana Farm Fatalities by Type of Incident

Type of Incident		Fatalities
Entrapments or suffocations	Grain entrapments	0
	Gas asphyxiations (manure pit)	2
Falls	From farm structures	3
	While on ground	1
Livestock-related incidents	Horse-drawn wagon incidents (Primarily runovers)	5
	Kicked by horse	2
	Attacked by bull	2
Machinery-related incidents	Other entanglements	2
	PTO entanglements	1
	Crushings	1
	Runovers	1
Tractor-related incidents	Overturns	13
	Roadway collisions	0
	Runovers	2
	Crushings/pinnings	3
	Struck by front-end loader	1
Other incidents (struck/crushed by flying/falling objects, heat stroke)		3
Total		42

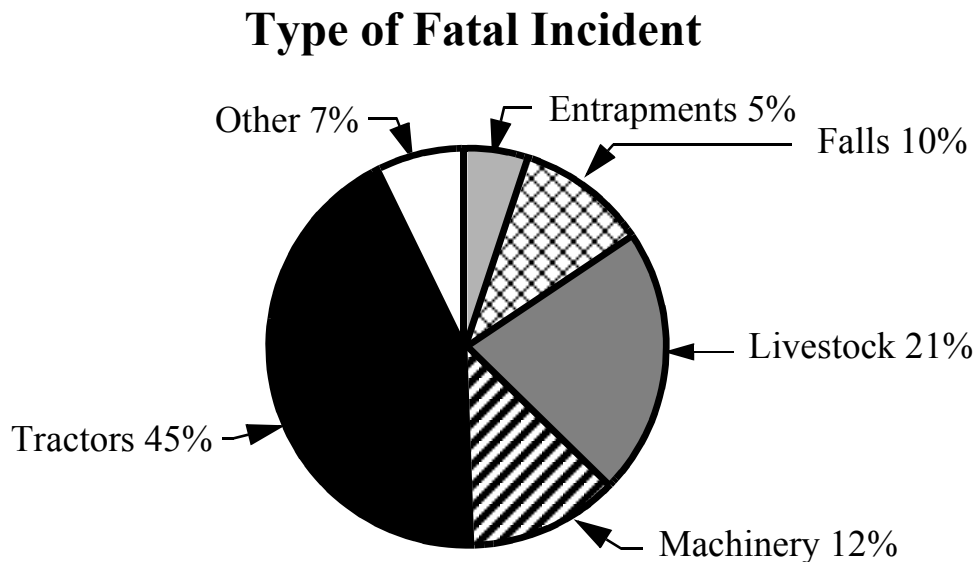


Figure 1. 1995 Indiana farm fatalities by type of incident

1995 Indiana Farm Fatalities

The following table provides a summary of fatalities occurring in Indiana counties in 1995. Fatal farm work-related incidents are described here by (1) date of incident, (2) age of victim, (3) gender of victim, (4) description of circumstances surrounding the incident, and (5) the source of the incident report [FACE = Report received from the Indiana Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program, Clips = Report obtained from news report clippings).

Table 3: 1995 Indiana Farm Fatalities by Date

	Date	County	Age	Sex	Description of incident	Report Source	
						FACE	Clips
1	1-4-95	Davies	43	M	<u>Entangled in a posthole auger.</u>		Y
2	1-24-95	Knox	57	F	<u>Entangled in a PTO shaft.</u>		Y
3	1-25-95	Whitley	48	M	<u>Overturned his tractor</u> on a roadway embankment and was crushed.		Y
4	2-28-95	LaGrange	27	M	<u>Run over</u> while attempting to jump from a runaway horse-drawn wagon.		Y
5	3-18-95	Henry	73	M	<u>Overturned tractor</u> and became and trapped underneath while hauling a large rock from a field with a front-end loader.		Y
6	3-18-95	Elkhart	54	M	<u>Overturned tractor</u> while attempting to pull out a tree stump with a small utility tractor in a field behind his home.		Y
7	3-21-95	Hancock	Unk	M	Crushed by falling equipment while attempting to raise a beam in a barn in preparation to replace the foundation (contractor).		Y
8	3-29-95	Elkhart	10	M	<u>Kicked by a horse</u> in the chest while working alone with animal in the stable.		Y
9	3-30-95	Jennings	41	M	<u>Overturned tractor</u> (to the rear) while attempting to pull a tree stump from the ground. Using a chain hitched as “high as it would go” on a small tractor without ROPS.		Y
10	4-8-95	Wayne	76	M	<u>Overturned his small tractor</u> and was pinned underneath while mowing. The tractor caught fire.		Y

Table 3: 1995 Indiana Farm Fatalities by Date

Date	County	Age	Sex	Description of incident	Report Source		
					FACE	Clips	
11	4-8-95	Greene	16	M	<u>Struck on the head</u> by the bucket of his tractor front-end loader.		Y
12	4-28-95	Johnson	48	M	<u>Overtured tractor</u> and became pinned underneath after it slipped off an embankment and rolled down an incline. He was driving on a roadside, hauling a tree with the front-end loader and attempting to let traffic pass.	Y	Y
13	5-8-95	Jackson	60	M	<u>Overtured his tractor</u> and manure spreader. The spreader slid sideways and jackknifed while operating on a hillside.		Y
14	5-12-95	Monroe	51	M	Victim was driving up steep incline pulling a disc harrow when the <u>tractor overturned rearward</u> over the back axle and he became pinned in the seat underneath.	Y	
15	5-29-95	Elkhart	31	M	<u>Pinned between feed truck and tractor</u> when the truck rolled forward while the victim was unhitching a tow chain.		Y
16	6-15-95	LaGrange	6	M	<u>Run over by a horse-drawn wagon</u> when he and 2 others (father and another boy) fell from a wagon as the load shifted on steep slope.	Y	Y
17	6-23-95	Wells	62	M	Trapped in a milking stall and <u>attacked by a Holstein bull</u> while performing chores.		Y
18	6-23-95 Died 6-26	Wells	36	M	<u>Critically injured by an attacking bull</u> while attempting to rescue his father.		Y
19	6-26-95	LaGrange	35	M	<u>Struck a tree with a team of horses</u> being used to cultivate a field. Horses were “spooked” by lightning, causing the horses to run out of control.	Y	Y
20	7-15-95	Elkhart	52	M	Experienced <u>heat stroke</u> while baling hay in 98 degree temps (125 degree Heat Index)		Y

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	Date	County	Age	Sex	Description of incident	Report Source	
						FACE	Clips
21	7-22-95	Butler	64	M	<u>Overtured his tractor</u> while operating a rotary mower. Cause of incident not reported.	Y	
22	8-2-95	LaGrange	9	M	Driving a horse-drawn manure spreader with 13 yr.-old brother, and apparently attempting to untangle the reins, when he <u>fell from the wagon and was crushed</u> under the wheel.	Y	Y
23	8-3-95	Gibson	52	M	Received <u>lethal doses of methane and hydrogen sulfide</u> while attempting to repair a pump inside a manure holding tank.	Y	Y
24	8-3-95	Gibson	40	M	Received <u>lethal doses of methane and hydrogen sulfide</u> while attempting to repair a pump inside a manure holding tank.	Y	Y
25	9-3-95	Randolph	2	M	Victim was <u>kicked in the head by a horse</u> .	Y	Y
26	9-5-95	Whitley	66	F	<u>Overtured tractor</u> while operating a rotary mower on a ditchbank and was pinned underneath.	Y	
27	9-5-95	Owen	79	M	<u>Crushed under rotary mower</u> while making repairs.	Y	
28	9-7-95	Decatur	75	M	<u>Fell from the top of a grain bin</u> approximately 22 feet while working.	Y	Y
29	9-18-95	Kosciusko	2	F	<u>Run over in the farm yard by a haybine</u> towed behind a tractor driven by her father. The victim was standing or sitting in the grass beside the lane and apparently ran behind the equipment as the tractor backed up.	Y	Y
30	9-19-95	LaGrange	6	M	Victim <u>fell from a wagon and was crushed by logs</u> also falling from the wagon.	Y	
31	9-23-95	Whitley	8	F	Victim was <u>riding in the bucket of a front-end loader</u> when the tractor hit a bump, throwing her in front of the tractor where she was <u>run over</u> .	Y	Y

Table 3: 1995 Indiana Farm Fatalities by Date

	Date	County	Age	Sex	Description of incident	Report Source	
						FACE	Clips
32	9-30-95	LaGrange	6	F	The victim was standing near a <u>horse-drawn wagon</u> when the <u>animal became startled, pulling the wagon over her</u> and crushing her.		Y
33	10-1-95	St. Joseph	34	M	The victim was hitching a piece of equipment when the <u>tractor rolled backward, pinning him</u> against a barn door.		Y
34	10-4-95	Madison	88	M	<u>Fell from ladder</u> and fractured neck. Cause of incident not reported.	Y	
35	10-11-95	Adams	71	M	Victim was working on the wiring of his tractor when it started, apparently while in gear, and the <u>tractor rolled over him</u> .	Y	Y
36	10-11-95	Orange	41	M	<u>Entangled in the header of combine</u> .	Y	
37	10-12-95	Franklin	63	M	<u>Overtured tractor</u> in roadside creek and was crushed. His daughter was a passenger, but was thrown clear.	Y	Y
38	10-29-95	Orange	33	M	<u>Crushed between the tractor and the support arms of a front-end loader</u> when a hydraulic line severed (or burst?) while the victim was welding on a cross-member on the loader.		Y
39	11-1-95	LaPorte	47	M	<u>Suffered a severe head injury when he fell from a ladder</u> erected next to a corn crib. Incident occurred in October (date unknown).		Y
40	11-18-95	Parke	44	M	<u>Overtured tractor</u> and was trapped underneath. Cause of incident not reported.	Y	
41	11-25-95	Adams	55	M	<u>Overtured tractor</u> and trapped underneath while attempting to drive up an embankment.	Y	Y
42	12-18-96	Jefferson	86	M	<u>Fell and struck his head on a rock</u> while apparently attempting to retrieve a bale of hay that had rolled down a hill while he was feeding cattle.	Y	Y

Updated: 1/23/96

Geographic Distribution of 1995 Indiana Farm Fatalities

